

PUBLIC HEARING OF THE VERMONT AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION  
COMMITTEE

Held September 16, 2009 at 10:30 AM  
Osgood Building, First Floor, Lincoln Conference Room

Allan Merritt: "Test 123. Good morning. My name is Allan Merritt. I am the Financial Director of the Agency of Human Services Fiscal Office. It's September 16, 2009. This is the formal hearing, public hearing, for our block grant applications. Under federal regulations we must, at the beginning of each fiscal year conduct a public hearing and notification of that public hearing for these block grants administered by AHS. Today I have with me members from each department that can address any concerns or questions regarding any of these grants. I believe that you all received prior to today's hearing a summary of the block grants.

I should also note that these block grants and their respective programs and amounts for the most part were approved as a part of the last legislative session, as part of the 2010 budget appropriations contained in the appropriations bill H41. Currently the bill supporting these block grants are under review. The estimated allocations remain consistent with these presentations with the exception of the LIHEAP block grant. The appropriations bills in both houses currently have higher allocations than shown in our request. Until enacted into law we will use the allocations shown in our request. If there is an increase in the federal appropriations we will request an increase in spending in following existing procedures for notifying the authorizing bodies.

At this time if you should have any questions we would be happy to address those questions and if anyone from the public is here we would be happy to answer their questions. If for any reason we don't have the information readily available to us it will be provided to you as soon as possible. It is my understanding that no department has received formal written requests for information at this point. The formal notice for the public hearing requests that requests for information be sent to Jim Giffin CEO. We have not received anything in writing from the public at this time. Our current schedule is to file these block grant applications at the end of next week with the governor's signature. I believe our next point will be to wait an additional ten minutes to allow anybody who might be late in getting to the hearing for them to appear and ask questions.

Ok. It is 11:00; excuse me it is 10:55 AM. No one has participated from the public. There are no outstanding questions I will bring this meeting to a close. Thank you all for coming.